

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT FOR CONCESSION REFORM LEGISLA- TION—H.R. 2028

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 1995

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday I introduced comprehensive legislation to reform the concession policies on Federal lands. This is a topic which has been extensively debated in recent years, with particular emphasis on National Park Service concession policies.

Currently, there are over 8,000 concession operations on lands managed by the Forest Service, National Park Service, Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and Fish and Wildlife Service. Each agency has its own independent set of rules and regulations designed to implement at least 11 different and sometimes conflicting laws. Concessioners have to wade through a mountain of differing requirements from agency to agency and are even required to collect and file different information with each agency on a single trip.

In report after report, the General Accounting Office and others have suggested that Federal concession management needs reform. My legislation is based on three primary principles as follows:

First, provide for a uniform and consistent concession policy among the Federal land management agencies to the extent feasible.

Second, recognition of the importance of the public-private partnership in providing a high quality recreation experience on Federal lands, and

Third, utilization of the competitive process to ensure quality service to the public at reasonable prices and a fair return to the Government.

This legislation includes many features which have not been included in previous legislative proposals. For example, this bill provides a consistent concession policy among all land management agencies, allows rates to the public to be set by the market place to the maximum extent possible, provides a truly competitive selection process which recognizes the value of concessioners with a proven record of performance, ensures a higher rate of return for the Government and permits concession fees collected to remain with the agencies, provides incentives to encourage the private sector to develop and maintain private recreation facilities on Federal lands, provides an independent appeals process to resolve disputes and permits the privatization of certain concession activities on Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service lands.

I believe that the policies outlined in this bill are sound. I encourage my colleagues to join with me in the further refinement of this legislation to ensure a high quality, concession-provided recreation experience awaits the American public on all their Federal lands.

REMEMBERING LIVEO "OLLIE" OLIVOTTI

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 1995

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, later this summer, America will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the end of the war in the Pacific. One of the heroes of that war, Ollie Olivotti, recently passed away and will soon be interred at Arlington National Cemetery. Ollie was a long-time resident of the city of Livermore in my district, and I wanted to take this opportunity to honor him for his sterling service to his country and his community and for his devotion to his family.

Ollie was a young serviceman in the Army Air Corps stationed at Clark Field in the Philippines when the war began. He fought on the Bataan Peninsula until the surrender to the Japanese in April, 1942. He survived not only the brutal Bataan Death March but also 3½ years in captivity, finally being liberated by Russian troops in 1945.

He retired as CWO from the U.S. Air Force in 1960 after winning the Bronze Star, the Prisoner of War Medal, and a host of other military honors. He then began working at Sandia National Laboratory, where he retired as a section supervisor after 21 years of service.

Active in community affairs, Ollie was married for 48 years to his beloved wife Harriet. He leaves her, their three daughters and their husbands, and nine grandchildren. And he also leaves a legacy of commitment to the values of family and freedom that have helped make America great.

It is an honor for me to recognize Ollie Olivotti today in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Our country has lost a hero, his family a loving husband and friend, and his community a loyal supporter.

CONGRATULATING THE BIR- MINGHAM SOUTHERN COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 1995

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Birmingham Southern College and it's men's basketball team for winning the NAIA championship in Tulsa, OK.

Birmingham-Southern College is ranked "among the best and most noteworthy in North America" by "The Insiders Guide to the Colleges 1994" edition, compiled and edited by the staff of the Yale Daily News. Birmingham-Southern College has again been ranked as one of the top "National Liberal Arts Colleges" by U.S. News and World Report in the magazine's recent "Best Colleges" issue.

Southern is recognized in the magazine's October 1994, issue as one of the best values in higher education. Birmingham-Southern is ranked No. 8 among the 160 National Liberal Arts Colleges in the category of Most Efficient Schools.

Enrollment has reached a high in recent years. From an enrollment of only 727 in 1976, Birmingham-Southern enrolled some 1,800 students this Fall.

The recognition and enrollment are the result of the college's outstanding academic reputation and the leadership its president, Dr. Neal R. Berte, who is an acknowledged national leader in higher education across the country, and the leadership and hard work of the trustees and the faculty.

Four prestigious guides, "The National Review College Guide," "The Fiske Guide to Colleges 1994," the "Princeton Review 1994 edition of The Student Access Guide to The Best 286 Colleges," and U.S. News & World Report magazine have ranked Birmingham-Southern College as among 58 of "America's Top Liberal Arts Schools," according to National Review; as among "315 of the best and most interesting colleges in America," according to Fiske; among the highest ranked in academics, quality of life and financial aid, according to the Princeton Review, and among the 140 top national liberal arts colleges, according to U.S. News in its October 4, 1993 issue.

Birmingham-Southern graduates' records indicate the quality of the educational experience at Birmingham-Southern. They are admitted to graduate schools, law schools, and medical schools at rates two to three times higher than most colleges across America.

These recognitions and impressive enrollment standards at Birmingham-Southern are the result of the outstanding academic reputation and hard work of the trustees and faculty along with the superior leadership of BSC's president, Dr. Neal R. Berte. Accomplishments such as the ones mentioned above would make any school proud, but Birmingham-Southern College's successes go far beyond the classroom.

The Birmingham-Southern College Men's basketball team was unranked in the pre-season poll and selected to finish fourth in the Southern States Conference. Despite these predictions, the Panthers were the first team to go 14-0 in Southern States competition and made their fourth trip to the tournament in only 6 years, and their second championship in that time. They completed the season with an incredible 32-consecutive-game winning streak, the longest in college basketball. Their record for the year was 35 wins, with only 2 losses, setting a record for the most wins in school history.

The record setting performance of the Birmingham-Southern College men's basketball team can be attributed to the relationships that are developed between coach and player. The Panthers winning attitude and success is a direct correlation with the accomplishments of Head Coach Duane Reboul and his assistant coaches Dwight Evans and Paul Arthur. Winning 83 percent of his games, coach Reboul

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